

# Rackheath Primary School

## HALLOWEEN Newsletter



Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2024

It has been a very positive start to the year. There has been lots of great learning and teaching going on. The new reception class have settled in very well to the school. New staff have integrated well into the school and we've had 2 new staff babies!

We had our outstanding OFSTED report in September. We have held parent cafes and class assemblies as well as been on trips and enjoyed visits from the author Steve Clifford as well as karate and basketball taster sessions. Towards the end of term we have enjoyed sporting success and this week we have shared the children's learning at parent's evenings

Today we sadly said goodbye to Ibbie in Year 6 who is moving to another school after half term. We held a special assembly this morning and Year 6 enjoyed a party in the afternoon. Ibbie is a much loved member of our Year 6 class and we will all miss her and hope she thrives at her new school.

We also said goodbye to Mr Poole who has completed his apprenticeship with us over the last year. Mr Poole has worked in a number of classes and taught PE alongside Mr Palmer in the afternoons as well as working in after school club. We will all miss him and wish him all the best for the future.



### House Captain Elections

On Monday we revealed the winners of our House Captain Elections. The children voted in to these important roles are:

- Barton Blues – Jack and Mitzy
- Ranworth Reds – Jake and Emily T.
- Hickling Greens – Sebastian and Honey
- Oulton Yellows – Harrison and Isabelle



I look forward to them leading their house teams at Sports Day, presenting our House Captain Awards in assembly and being Head's For the Day!





**Cluster Football Tournament** – On Wednesday we took part in the Cluster Football Tournament at Hveton St Johns. The team performed extremely well throughout the tournament. We started with a 4-0 win against Tunstead before beating Coltishall 2 by a score of 3-0, with Ricki having a very good game. In our last group game we played St Johns, despite going a goal behind the team fought back to win 2-1. Ethan made some good saves before Maxwell equalised and then Harrison scored a dramatic winner right at the end.

This took us through to the Semi-Final, where we played Salhouse. The team put in a super performance winning 4-0 with Sebastian and Harlan both excelling. This took us through to the final where we faced Coltishall 1. Despite controlling the game we couldn't get a breakthrough. Then with 2 minutes to go Freddie fired in an unstoppable free kick into the bottom corner and a minute later Ellis repeated the trick to give the team a well-deserved 2-0 win and the tournament win!

Overall the team scored 15 goals and only conceded 1. Goals were shared out between Harlan, Harrison, Ellis, Freddie and Maxwell. Well done to them as well as Ricki, Ethan and Sebastian!

Thanks to Ms Holmes for time keeping and keeping the scores and to Mr Palmer for coming along as well as to our excellent band of supporters!



After half term we will be selling poppies and other Royal British Legion mementos ahead of Remembrance Day on Monday 11th November. Year 6 children will be out at break times selling the poppies. To make sure everyone gets a chance to buy something we do have a suggested price for each item ranging from £1 for a ruler/slap band to 20p for a paper poppy. Other items include new adjustable "festival" bands and key rings. We also have some 2024 pin badges which can be bought from the office for £2 by parents and other family members.



### **Class Assemblies**

This week it was the turn of Year 1 to share their learning with their grown-ups. The assembly was a lovely opportunity for the children to share their learning. The class enthusiastically shared poems and songs they have learnt in front of a bumper audience. Well done Year 1 and the class team. Our assemblies carry on after half term. All assemblies start at 2:45. Parents should arrive by 2:40.

- Wednesday 6th November – Year 4
- Thursday 14th November – Year 2
- Tuesday 19th November – Reception
- Wednesday 27th November – Year 6

## Parent Teacher Evenings

It was good to see lots of you attending the first parent teacher evenings of the year on Wednesday and Thursday. All feedback from parents and staff was really positive about the children and their progress so far this year!



### Visits for New Reception Children

We are organising visits over the next few weeks for parents interested in their child joining the school as part of the September 2025 Reception class. If you are interested in a look round or know someone who might please contact the school office on 01603 720098.



### Wellbeing with Mrs Cookson

I hope everyone enjoys a restful half-term break! This is the perfect time to pause, take a breather, and recharge as we prepare for the busy weeks ahead leading up to the festive season. As we approach Christmas, the days might be getting shorter, but that only gives us more opportunities to embrace the cosy feeling of the season.

This week, I want to share a little bit about the Danish concept of "hygge" (pronounced hoo-gah). Hygge is all about cultivating a sense of warmth, contentment, and comfort - creating a space where you can truly unwind and feel at peace, no matter what's going on outside. It's about finding joy in the simple, everyday pleasures, and it's the perfect practice for this time of year.

Imagine snuggling up together on the sofa under soft, cosy blankets, perhaps with your favourite mug of hot chocolate. Add dim lighting and flameless candles to create the perfect atmosphere of calm. It's the kind of environment where you can truly relax, whether you're enjoying a favourite movie or simply spending time together as a family.

Hygge doesn't have to be complicated - you might also find it by enjoying a peaceful walk outside on a sunny day, or by enjoying a homemade meal with loved ones. It's all about making space for those moments of connection and comfort that help us feel grounded and happy.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the next half term. Best wishes,  
Claire Cookson (ccookson6nrf@nsix.org.uk or 01603 720 098).

## Upcoming Dates for your Diaries

- Monday 4th November – New half term starts
- Monday 4th November – Archery Taster
- Wednesday 6th November – Anglo-Saxon Day Year 5 and 6
- Tuesday 12th November – Visiting Pantomime Show
- Wednesday 13th November – Cluster Cross Country at Colfishall
- Thursday 14th November – Governor Day
- Friday 15th November – Children in Need – Non-school uniform fundraiser

Dates for  
the Diary:

## FORS News



We would like to thank everyone who donated cakes and bought cakes from our Halloween bake sale. We raised a massive £241. We very much appreciate all of your continuous support!

Can you support our Christmas Fayre? We are looking for local companies who can sponsor parts of our Fayre to help us maximise money we can raise for the school in exchange for advertising your company at our Fayre and on social media ..

Where you can help by sponsoring:

- Our School Christmas Tree
- Our Cash first prize on our Raffle
- Our Santa's Grotto
- Our FORS Stalls

If you think your company can help please speak to a member of FORS or email us on [friendsofrackheathschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:friendsofrackheathschool@hotmail.co.uk)



## Bombers

Hello from all at Bombers.

The children have been busy this week with making pathways with the stepping stone and climbing across the 'go/go'rails. They have been looking at matching number to numerals 1 to 5, and creating some styles with the hairdressers. There has been lots of singing and stories, creating leaf pictures and Halloween dressing up.

On return from half term we will be exploring fireworks and patterns and focusing on turn taking. Happy half term to all.

## Reception

We have enjoyed reading *Funnybones* by Janet and Allan Ahlberg. The children loved joining in with the repetitive language and thinking about what the characters might say and how they feel. There have been lots of 'spooky' activities too – a favourite being the Halloween counting spells. Today I have been turned into a frog, spider, silver rat and lizard! Luckily we had some wonderful witches and wizards who invented spells to change me back!

In phonics, we have learned these sounds: l, h, sh and r. 'Sh' is our first digraph – two letters working together to make one sound. Our red words are: he, she, we. We have enjoyed lots of We hope all our families have a fun, safe and restful half term break and we look forward to seeing you all soon.



## Year 1

In Year 1, the highlight of our week was our Class Assembly! We were confident and really enjoyed ourselves. Thank you to so many grown-ups for coming to watch us.

In Phonics, we learnt our first new sound of Year 1. We learnt the sound 'ea' (cup of tea) and compared it to the sound 'ee' (what can you see). We said 'same sound, different appearance'. In English, we continued with our Michael Rosen poetry. We became poets ourselves by making up our own rhymes for the poem 'Oh Dear' – one of our favourites was Pippa's 'llamas' and 'farmers'! We played matching pairs games with rhyming words.

In Maths, we looked at addition and subtraction. We used the words 'take away', 'subtract' and 'minus' and used the '-' symbol. We used part-whole models, toys and Numicon to help us.

We are so impressed with the progress the children have made in their first term in Year 1. Keep reading at home over the half term break, but most importantly rest and have fun! See you in a week.



## Year 2

It has been an extremely busy half term in Year 2, well done to all the children for their hard work! They have certainly earned a week of rest!

In English, we have been working hard on our book 'How to Find Gold'. The children have focused on using powerful language to create detailed descriptions and have been practicing writing expanded noun phrases. We also explored speech. The children took on the role of Anna from the story, imagining what they would say if they encountered a giant sea creature while exploring the ocean! In Maths, we have started learning how to add two-digit numbers together, a big step in building our addition skills.

During our Topic lessons, we continued our Geography work by exploring the continent of Africa, with a special focus on the different types of food grown there. We also tapped into our creative side with some observational sketching, drawing some interesting pumpkins.

### **Year 3**

It has been a busy final week in Year 3!

In English, the children each wrote their own instructions on how to carve a pumpkin. They then edited and typed them onto a word document.

In Maths, we continued learning on subtracting 3-digit numbers. This week we used pictorial (drawings) and abstract methods to solve our subtraction questions. To begin, we looked at questions without needing an exchange (e.g.,  $368 - 134 = 234$ ), before moving onto questions where we were required to exchange 10s for 1s or 100s for 10s (for example,  $368 - 129 = 239$ ).



In Art, we planned and created our final rainforest paintings inspired by Henri Rousseau.

During Topic, the children learnt about four different types of Roman houses (wooden huts, Insulae, Domus and Roman Villas). During our discussions we analysed the differences and similarities between Roman houses and the houses we live in today.

We have also discussed our feelings and the different zones we experience for different reasons. Most of the children agreed that they would be in the 'Blue Zone' if their pet went missing, but in the 'Yellow Zone' if they were about to compete in a competition.

Have a wonderful half term; I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Year 4**

Year 4 have had an amazing first half term! It has been wonderful getting to know all your children, they are such a kind and caring group. They have stepped up to the increasing challenge of their work and are showing great resilience.

In English we have covered lots of areas which the children can now confidently apply throughout their work. This week we continued looking at the Wild Robot, today the children applied their knowledge of alliteration and expanded noun phrases to write a description of Roz's garden.

This week we spent time looking at our zones of regulation. The children completed some drama work to express different emotions in a range of circumstances. They were all able to show different zones and guess how each other may have been feeling.

Myself and Mrs Goddard have loved getting to know the children this half term and cannot wait to continue our journey with them this year. Have a lovely half term.

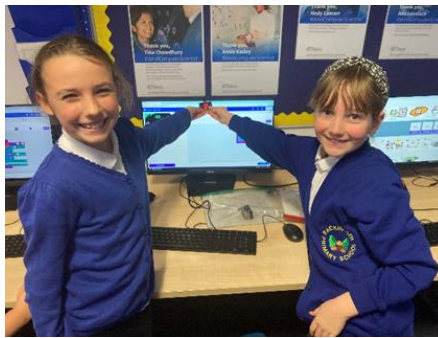
## Year 5

What a half term... it has flown by!

In maths this week, we have started our work on multiplication by looking at patterns that we can spot with our times tables. We have also looked at prime numbers... a number that only has two factors (or that is only in the 1 times table and its own times table!

On Tuesday, we visited Thorpe High School for a coding event. The children used Microbits to create code to allow them to play games with the small portable computers! Nathan was in his element. We were there with another school and I was incredibly impressed with the behaviour of our children!!

The highlight of our week has been 8 Billion Ideas. The children have spent most of the week making their prototypes, creating PowerPoints, designing posters and writing scripts for when we present our ideas after half term! The children have absolutely loved this project and I wish them all the best for when it comes picking our school winner!



**Pooper Scooper Activator**

## Year 6

The end of the half term is here and what a half term it has been! The children have all worked incredibly hard and should be proud of the progress they have made. Sadly, we said goodbye to Ibbie as it was her last day at Rackheath Primary. All of the children and staff will really miss her but we know she will be amazing at her new school. It was lovely to have a leaver's assembly and disco for her – where everyone had lots of fun. Thank you to Mrs Hogarth who organised the disco! In Maths this week, we answered a variety of questions linked to short multiplication and division. In English, the children learnt how to use dialogue to establish a character's personality as well as to help move events along. This linked to a mystery story. The children then used these ideas to begin a story where they included short sentences to add suspense. Our main grammar focus was how to write expanded noun phrases. In Topic, we researched the 7 kingdoms of Britain during the Anglo-Saxon era. This information will be used during our Anglo-Saxon day after half term (Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November). The class also designed their own Anglo-Saxon menus as well as their own settlement.

The children found out who were elected to be this year's House Captains too. I would like to say another massive well done to everyone who put themselves forward as the speeches were great! Finally, well done to the Year 6 children who (yesterday) won the cluster football tournament at St John's Primary. The staff who went with them commented on the children's fantastic performances and behaviour. Have a lovely half term everyone!

# Attendance Bear

Well done to Year 2 who had  
**99%**  
attendance again last week.  
Attendance Bear will spend the week  
after half term with them!

Have a lovely half term break!

Best Wishes

*Chris Ashman*